

Legislative Study Committees Final Reports and Updates

A list of 2024 House and Senate study committees which have addressed issues of county importance can be found below. Several of these study committees have issued their final reports. Please contact ACCG's Governmental Affairs staff if you have any questions.

Senate Study Committee on the Preservation on Georgia's Farmlands Final Report

The Senate Study Committee on the Preservation of Georgia's Farmlands, led by Sen. Billy Hickman (R-Statesboro), has adopted its final report, presenting key recommendations aimed at safeguarding Georgia's agricultural future. Established by SR 470 during the 2024 Legislative Session, the committee undertook a comprehensive review of the challenges facing Georgia's agricultural sector. Drawing on input from experts in agricultural economics, tax policy, land management, and environmental law, the committee has proposed actionable solutions to protect and sustain the state's farmland.

Recommendations

The committee's report outlined several critical measures to address the challenges faced by Georgia's farming communities, including:

1. **Tax Relief:** Expanding efforts to alleviate tax burdens on farmers to make agriculture financially viable across all regions of Georgia.
2. **Disaster Relief:** Establishing a state-level disaster relief package for rural communities affected by Hurricane Helene.
3. **Federal Advocacy:** Supporting a federal Farm Bill that incentivizes farmland conservation.
4. **Workforce Development:** Increasing state investments in rural workforce development initiatives to ensure a sustainable agricultural future.
5. **Educational Support:** Promoting farm-based education in school systems statewide to cultivate agricultural awareness and skills among Georgia's youth.
6. **Veterinary Services:** Expanding rural veterinary services to support livestock, dairy, and equine operations.

To view the final report and recommendations, please click [here](#).

House Study Committee on Navigable Streams and Related Matters

The House Study Committee on Navigable Streams and Related Matters was created by the passage of HR 1554. The committee was led by Chairman Lynn Smith and conducted three meetings throughout the state. Committee recommendations included preserving the current legal definition on navigability, enhancing collaboration for public access and waterway conservation, protecting outdoor traditions, maintaining the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program, and promoting tools to resolving waterway disputes.

To view the final report and recommendations, please click [here](#).

Senate Study Committee on Artificial Intelligence

The Senate Study Committee on Artificial Intelligence (AI), led by Sen. John Albers, was created under SR 476. The committee spent months exploring the potential and implications of AI technology across sectors such as education, public safety, healthcare, agriculture, and entertainment. Committee recommendations include AI focused education initiatives, improving public safety and healthcare through AI, and measures to ensure transparency, accountability, and protection against deepfake misuse. Other recommendations include AI policies for ethical use, data privacy, and oversight in public entities.

To view the final report and recommendations, please click [here](#).

Other Study Committees that Have Not Yet Issued Their Final Reports

House Rural Development Council

To view previous meetings, their agendas and presentations, please click [here](#).

House Study Committee on Private Water Systems

To view previous meetings, their agendas and presentations, please click [here](#).